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The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"To a small extent it has reduced the number; I would welcome a greater reduction."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Government are likely to recognize any private Law College provided it conforms to certain rules prescribed by the Government?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"Such a proposal has not come in."

Mr. M. Devadasan:—"Is it not a fact that the members of the staff are underpaid in the Law College in spite of the increase in the income of the College?"

* The Hon. the President:—"That question does not arise."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to transfer the College to the Bar Council?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"There is no such proposal before the Government."

Excise

Proposals for opening additional toddy and arrack shops during the ensuing year.

* 736 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many toddy and arrack shops existed in each district in each year for the past five years including 1935–36;

(*b*) how many new shops are proposed to be opened in each variety during the coming year in each district; and

(*c*) what the reasons are for the opening of these proposed new shops?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 95 answered on 3rd August 1934 and the answer to question No. 404 answered on 22nd January 1935, which give the information up to 1934–35. In 1935–36, the number of toddy and arrack shops sold was ten thousand one hundred and thirty-eight and five thousand seven hundred and one respectively. District-war particulars of toddy shops for 1935–36 are not available. A statement [a] is appended showing the number of arrack shops in each district for 1935–36.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

(*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 667.

[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 620 infra.

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he is aware that new shops are being opened in a number of districts including Salem? I wish to know whether the Government have any particular object in opening new shops? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" It is a matter which is left to the Collector, the Advisory Committee and the Licensing Board in that particular area."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to say whether the opening of new shops does not conflict with the policy of the Government in connexion with the question of prohibition they have declared? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Not necessarily; with a view to prevent illicit practices, it is necessary to open additional shops."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware that the promised millennium of total prohibition has not been reached although the period during which total prohibition was sought to be reached, is mostly over? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I do not think that such a general question as that arises out of this simple question."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the policy to which the Government are committed, may I ask why the Government did not circularize the Excise Officers as regards the desirability of restricting the number of shops? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" They know the policy of the Government very well."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the increase in the number of shops cropping up, may I ask whether the Government are prepared to refresh the memories of these officers? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Whenever new shops are being opened, it is done with a view to stop illicit practices and I do not think the Government should stand in the way of having new shops opened, for that purpose."

Opening of liquor shops in the City of Madras on forbidden days.

* 737 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued orders to close liquor shops on Sundays, public holidays and election days in accordance with the resolution passed by this Council on the 8th August 1929; and